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### In the claims:

Please amend claims 15, 20-24, 38, 46 and 55 as follows:

(All the pending claims, 15-55 are reproduced for the Examiner's convenience)

15. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit for detecting the presence of or predisposition for breast cancer, wherein a means is provided for detecting a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides from a BRCA1 gene in a sample, wherein said deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 ~~and/or at least a major part of exon 22~~ *or both.*
16. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the means comprises at least one probe for hybridization.
17. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the means comprises the necessary elements for Southern blotting.
18. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the probe comprises a sequence complementary to sequences on both sides of the deletion in the BRCA1 gene.
19. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the necessary elements for Southern blotting comprises a probe, the probe comprising a sequence complementary to sequences on both sides of the deletion in the BRCA1 gene.
20. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.
21. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the deletion comprises all of ~~one~~ exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.

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22. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.
23. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.
24. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.
25. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.
26. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.
27. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.
28. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.
29. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.
30. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 20, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.
31. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

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32. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.
33. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.
34. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.
35. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.
36. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 20, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.
37. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 25, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.
38. (Amended) A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit for detecting the presence of or predisposition for breast cancer, wherein a means is provided for detecting a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides from a BRCA1 gene in a sample, and wherein the deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 and/or at least a major part of exon 22; said probe comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.
39. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 38, wherein the means comprises at least one probe for hybridization, the probe comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

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40. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 38, wherein the means comprises the necessary elements for Southern blotting, comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.
41. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.
42. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 19 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.
43. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 20 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.
44. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 25 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.
45. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 31 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.
46. (Amended) A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 and/or at least a major part of exon 22, and wherein the probe<sup>is</sup> [comprises] a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
47. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

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48. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
49. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
50. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
51. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 20, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
52. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 25, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
53. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 31, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
54. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 38, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.
55. (Amended) A method of determining the presence in a sample of a nucleic acid derived from a BRCA1 gene having a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides, comprising contacting said sample with at least one probe which alone or together with a second means for detecting said deletion of a stretch of nucleotides from a BRCA1 gene, distinguishes between BRCA1 genes having said deletion and BRCA1 genes not having said deletion, allowing hybridization between said probe and said nucleic acids to form a hybridization product and identifying the hybridization product, wherein

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said deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 and/or at least a major part of  
exon 22.